

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell electrocatalyst comprising:

a carrier; and

a catalyst layer made of a plurality of Pt-Ru alloy particles supported on the carrier, wherein an oxygen content in an entirety of at least one particle is between 3.87 wt% and 4.4 wt%.

2. Cancelled.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a fuel cell electrocatalyst comprising:

a supporting step of supporting a catalyst layer made of a plurality of particles of an alloy including Pt and Ru on a carrier; and

an oxygen content regulating step of reducing an oxygen content in at least one particle in its entirety to between 3.87 wt% and 4.4 wt%.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of producing a fuel cell electrocatalyst according to claim 3, wherein:

the oxygen content regulating step reduces the oxygen content to between 3.87 wt% and 4.4 wt% or less in the plurality of particles entirety of the particle.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Original) The method of producing a fuel cell electrocatalyst according to claim 3, wherein:

2

the supporting step includes a heating step of heating the catalyst layer, and the oxygen content regulating step is a step of keeping the catalyst layer in a non-oxidizing atmospheric state in the heating step.

5 ^x (Original) The method of producing a fuel cell electrocatalyst according to
4 claim 6, wherein:

the non-oxidizing atmospheric state in the oxygen content regulating step is a state in which a non-oxidizing substance is adsorbed on a surface of the catalyst layer.

6 8. (Original) The method of producing a fuel cell electrocatalyst according to
4 claim 6, wherein:

the non-oxidizing atmospheric state is a reducing atmospheric state.

7 9. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell electrocatalyst according to claim 1, wherein the oxygen content in the entirety of each particle in the plurality of particles is between 3.87 wt. % and 4.4 wt. % or less.

8 10. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell electrocatalyst according to claim 1, wherein said at least one particle has a diameter of 3.5 nm.

9 11. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell electrocatalyst according to claim 10,
between 3.87 wt. % and
wherein an allowable oxygen content of said catalyst layer is 4.4 wt. % or less.

Ex's
Am'dt

Pltt
9/6/05